

He Abandons War

"WELL," said the Idiot, as he took his chair at the breakfast table, "I am for arbitration at last. Somehow or other the barbaric strain in my being in the past has clamored for the settlement of strife by strife. Fire, I used to think, should be fought by fire. If a man has hit me in the face with a paving stone I have believed in hitting him back with a piece of pig iron, not with a chocolate eclaire, and, while in common with others, I have hated war for all the misery and woe it brings in its train. I have thought that perhaps our ancestors were right in regarding it as the most thorough method of finally settling a vexed question."

"Great Scott! What has induced all this preaching this morning?" asked the Bibliomane. "You haven't given up Idiotry for the pulpit have you?"

"No, sir," returned the Idiot. "There's none of your Dowie about me. I haven't the slightest ambition to start a religion, but I have become a convert from war to arbitration."

"All sensible men did that long ago," said Mr. Brief. "War is fit only for savages, for the beasts of the jungle, for those who maintain that might makes right. You are coming in late—a regular habit of yours, I believe—at the tail end of the procession of sanity. What has wrought this sudden transformation?"

"I went to a football match yesterday, and that turned the trick," replied the Idiot. "The strenuous life is no longer for me. I am content now to leave the kope of strife for the seductive sweet reasonableness of the drawing room. I am willing that the great international differences of the future shall be settled, not upon the battlefield, but over the 5 o'clock tea table; that our generals of the future shall be clad in frock coats and lavender kids instead of glorifying in the gold-mounted habiliments of war, for I see now what a terrible thing conflict becomes when two bodies of men align themselves in opposition, and then rush in to do or die."

"It is really so awful?" asked Mr. Whitechoker.

"It is inspiringly awful," returned the Idiot. "I used, years ago, to read with the keenest pleasure of the deeds of daring by heroes of old upon the great battlefields of history, but I never imagined a scene so terrible as that which confronted me yesterday, when twenty-two young gladiators who are now seeking the refinements of education agreed to disagree

as to which was the better college at football, Quince-ton or Yalevard, and then repaired to the gridiron to fight it out to a finish. Young giants they were, and when they had at each other, it seemed to me at the moment of their impact that the whole universe trembled. The sun blinked as if somebody had smashed him between the eyes; the earth shook as though some undreamed-of force of nature lurking within had suddenly gone on a spree, and I thanked my stars that the powers, when they fashioned me, had decided to withhold from me the sixty-seven-inch bicep, the steel constructed shin, the shoulders of Atlas and the nerve of old Mr. Ajax; else I, too, might have been ambitious to get on an eleven somewhere, to retire from the conflict minus my ribs, with an ingrowing nose, a spine divided against itself, and my kneecaps strewn from one end of the gridiron to the other."

"Mercy!" cried Mrs. Pedagog. "What a dreadful picture."

"Dreadful, but inadequate," said the Idiot. "I have seen pictures by master hands of avalanches descending from the Alpine heights carrying and overwhelming all before them; I have seen a painting depicting the horrid scene that confronted Noah and his family upon the subsidence of the flood; my history of the various wars of Napoleon is filled with engravings of the fields of Austerlitz, Jena, Waterloo—but all, all were inadequate to the reality of the thing yesterday. One of my ambitions has always been to see, from a safe position, two railway trains collide at full speed—"

"Why, you bloodthirsty creature!" cried the Poet. "Not at all," said the Idiot. "My ambition did not include the sacrifice of human life. What I wanted was to start an empty train, say at Albany, and another one from New York, on the same track, the one going south and the other north, and then stand somewhere about Poughkeepsie myself, and see them come together—but now my desire for that sort of thing is over. I have seen twenty-two big brawny civilized American youths do practically the same thing with each other, and I am content. I have seen accomplished the apparently impossible feat of one young man running directly through another young man without removing the other young man's vermiform appendix. I have seen a human being slide on his nose as if it were a keen-edged skate from the forty-five-yard line forward to the five-yard line of the enemy's field, and act as if he enjoyed it into the bargain. I

have seen an 18-year-old boy, distinguished for his beauty and his manners in the drawing room, fly through the air like a human catapult, land on his stomach on an oval-shaped bit of leather, and then utterly disappear beneath a writhing tidal wave of legs, canvas jackets and head guards, weighing in the neighborhood of 4,000 pounds. What is more, when, after a mangle struggle of three minutes, he had emerged from the scrimmage, it was with a smile that would have been beautiful if it had not been over full of grass, sand and gravel. When that two tons of humanity threw itself madly down upon him, I never expected to see the youth again alive, and as for his remains, my impulse would have been to look for them somewhere sixty feet below the surface. But he rose up as nonchalantly as if somebody had merely dropped a peanut shell on him from above, and went back into the game with renewed vigor. Most singular of all, however, was the spectacle of one brawny youth catching another about the middle, hurling him twenty or thirty yards into a mud puddle, and then proceeding to jump upon his victim's neck as if that same were made of rubber and not of those somewhat more tender ingredients that make that part of our anatomy so susceptible to the rude happenings of life. It was a common play, that of one player pretending that the other was a hammer and that it was up to him to throw him a mile if possible, and I blush to say that every time it was made, I, like the rest of the barbarians upon the grandstand, got up and shouted like a demon. Indeed, I shouted possibly more than anybody else, because I was taking no sides in the contest, and yelled every time either side did anything that was particularly outrageous."

"I had supposed that the rough house business had gone out of football," said Mr. Brief. "Haven't the new rules done something to take away the brutality of the game?"

"I suppose they have," said the Idiot. "I believe now it is considered bad form for one player intentionally to step on another's face, or forcibly to thrust his teeth down his throat; and if a man loses his ear in a scrimmage, I understand that the etiquette of the game permits him to call for a cessation of hostilities until he finds it—or at least to give him a reasonable time to find it, just as they do in golf when a chap loses his ball—say five minutes. The authorities have likewise provided for some modification of the tandem play, by which more than five men at a

time are forbidden to butt an opponent in the stomach. That is a great gain in gentleness, I am told, of Shakespeare, as far as I am concerned, in the language of Shakespeare, 'But no butt' would be my slogan if ever I embarked upon a football enterprise in person."

"Well, I am surprised," said Mr. Whitechoker. "Only the other day one of my congregation was expressing her delight that football had been so modified as to relieve it of such objectionable features. She has a son on one of the teams, and I am quite certain it is her belief that the game presents no dangerous complications."

"Possibly she meant to the ball itself," Mr. Whitechoker, said the Idiot. "In respect to the ball, there has undoubtedly been a very considerable moderation. They used to pound it and kick it, and lamm it until you'd think it would burst, but most of that has been done away with. It is now treated with as much consideration as if it were a tender child. It is handled with so much care that you'd almost expect to find it marked 'fragile,' and the player who is fortunate enough to get hold of it fondles it in his arms much as a kindly nurse fondles an infant. He hugs it, tight, wards off the blows of those who would harm it, does everything, in fact, to protect it from the cruel buffeting of the world. When the ball falls to the ground, all twenty-two men gather about it and defy the world to do it harm, and upon occasions when it would seem as if lasting injury would be wrought upon its tender form, but for prompt and heroic action, it is punted gently but firmly as far out of danger as the guardian of the moment can manage. Yes, I think in the last ten years the tendency of the game in so far as it relates to the ball has been in the direction of restfulness. The pickin' itself has become rather a rallying point than an active sufferer from the ruder elements of the game."

As the Idiot finished, Mr. Brief began scratching his head as if in perplexity.

"Your dissertation upon the great game of the hour is very picturesque," he said. "But I've been wondering for the past five minutes just what it has to do with the great principle of arbitration. Arbitration in the end will of course abolish war, but what is it going to have to do with football?"

"That's the whole point," said the Idiot, "and that's what I'm coming to. That it will stop war is a good thing, but is arbitration to stop there? Is that one

achievement to be sufficient? I should say not, and for that reason I am coming out for arbitration, to become one of its followers. I shall preach it wherever I go, whether my path leads me into Venezuela or into Canada; into the Bowery or into the highest circles of society, and then, as one of its loyal adherents, I shall be in a position to insist upon its development along all lines until the idea it have in mind is realized."

"And that is?" demanded Mr. Brief.

"That these football differences shall be settled by arbitration, and not by a free fight of an hour and a half's duration, divided into two parts," said the Idiot. "I shall begin my propaganda by trying to interest the presidents of our colleges in the question. They shall enlist the sympathies of the clergy, and, through them, reach the parents of the young from whose services ranks are now drawn the conflicting forces. If Yale claims the football championship from Harvard, let the justice of the cause be settled by a conference made up of three sober-minded Yale men, three Harvard men of judicial habit, and an odd outsider from Columbia or Princeton, who shall throw the weight of his influence into the balance as his conscience, after hearing all the evidence, dictates. This plan, once started, developed and extended, would result in an annual football congress where the claims to pre-eminence of all the colleges and universities of the land would be adjudged by a panel of three scrupulous, with a tremendous amount of dignity, no brutality whatsoever, and the whole thing skidded over with a pale cast of intellectuality that would lift the game from the level of mere physical force to the higher realms of speculation, which most strengthen the mind. It would place the game also within the reach of the intellectual giant but physical weakling, who is now completely overshadowed by his less learned but more muscular classmates."

"That!" said the doctor. "Football would become a dull game under such a scheme."

"It certainly would for the doctors," said the Idiot, "but for the rest of us—we'll assure you, sir, that there are thousands of people in this country today who rejoice in checking to every one of the darts from football, and in a republic the majority must be considered."

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Draw Inspiration from Economy.

OUR Fall and Winter Merchandise commands attention and investigation. Our progressive, low selling prices appeal to every home. In our store all people are accorded courteous treatment. We seek to please every purchaser, and in case of any oversight, neglect or dissatisfaction whatsoever, prompt adjustment will be made, providing the management is made aware of the circumstance. And it is always worth while to bear in mind that every statement as regards reductions in price is a fact. Draw inspiration of economy from our daily presentation of inducements regularly announced in the newspapers.

Pyrography.

North Entrance First Aisle South. Interest in burnt woodwork is growing. The pupils are making excellent headway as the teacher is painstaking. The lessons are free to those who purchase articles for the work at this store. Pyrography is a simple solution to the making of Christmas presents.

Art Needle Work.

Belding Bros' wash silks are used. No other silk approaches it. Through its medium and the proficiency of the instructor pupils are executing beautiful pieces of needlework. It affords the opportunity to solve the perplexing question of what to give for Christmas.

Art Goods.

North Entrance First Aisle South. Raffia pillow covers in the different shades of raffia, which are ready to be worked, are reduced from \$1.50 to 1.50 And from \$1.50 to 1.25 We are showing something new in the line of stamped linen centerpieces with edges already embroidered, for 75c

Handkerchiefs.

North Entrance First Aisle. A new and very handsome line of large handkerchiefs suitable for kimono as well as the latest pillow covers, are shown at the very low price of 10c For the week a pretty line of women's handkerchiefs with lace edge and insertion will be sold for 25c

Special on Outing Flannels.

Our regular 12½c, now 10c Our regular 10c, now 8½c Our regular 8½c, now 6½c

Gloves for Women.

North Entrance, To left. Found's Amazon cashmere glove, an imitation of the reverse, which is shown in black only, is an attractive special at \$1.00 The very thing for children to wear as gloves to insure warm fingers are our all-wool Golf Gloves, which can be bought this week for 25c, instead of 35c An interesting glove special is offered in our Arabian Mocha Glove for \$1.20 All of Perlin's gloves are first-class and fashionable—perhaps the leading glove on the market—certainly none are superior. This week the \$1.50 value will be sold for \$1.50

LOT 1-500 pairs of ladies' Ideal kid, velour calf and fine box calf. In hand turned and hand welted soles, all the newest heel and toe shapes, sizes 2 to 8, widths AA to E, \$2.50 and \$3.00 values, in this sale, your choice \$2.85 LOT 2-300 pairs of ladies' Corona colt, velour calf and box calf shoes, in heavy extension and turned soles, all the latest toe and heel shapes, sizes 2 to 8, widths A to EE, \$2.50 and \$3.00 values, in this sale, your choice \$1.95 LOT 3-300 pairs of misses' school shoes, button and lace, in heavy extension soles, patent leather and stock tips, heavy Dongola stock, sizes 11 to 2, \$1.50 and \$1.75 values, in this sale, your choice \$1.00 LOT 4-100 pairs of boys' kangaroo calf and seal grain school shoes, the kind that wears, sizes are broken, but all sizes in the lot, \$1.75 and \$2.00 values, in this sale, your choice \$1.00

Underwear.

Women's winter weight underwear in all grades and all styles, in vests, drawers and union suits, from 25c up to \$12.50. We carry the Ypsilanti underwear in all grades and all styles, in vests, drawers and union suits, from \$2.50 up to \$10 per garment. We have the Globe underwear in shirts and drawers, blue and white only, full fashioned, flat underwear, very soft and fine, prices \$1.75 and \$2 per garment. Underwear in all grades, all prices, and all sizes.

Ribbon Reduction.

South Entrance, First Aisle to North. A fine quality of taffeta, 6 inches wide and in all shades, is lowered from 45c to 35c

Boys' Overcoats.

Balcony Section, Ages 3 to 8 years. These stylish overcoats are of medium weight homespun, cheviot and melton, storm collar, cuff on sleeve and strap at the back. \$4.50 and \$4.75 for 3.95



CORSETS

South Entrance, Rear South Aisle. If the woman could be made to realize that the proper selection of her corset has much to do with the dignified bearing and pretty face so much admired, she would be more careful to buy only those corsets made on correct lines and in accordance with the requirements of hygiene as related to her form. Redfern Style L has long dip hip suitable for the average figure. Medium waist. White. Coutil. 10½-inch clasp, 5 hooks, 20 to 30 inches. Style R in the Redfern Corset is for well developed and stout figures requiring a long-waisted corset. Deep, full bust. Long dip hip with front and side supporters. Well boned. White. Coutil. 10½-inch clasp, 5 hooks, 22 to 30 inches.

Girls' and Misses' Suits.

Sizes 12, 13, 14 and 15 years. These splendid and delightful suits are made of navy blue and fancy mixtures, lined with satin, while some are lined with taffeta silk. The skirts are short and unlined and the lengths of the skirts are from 30 to 34 inches. IT WILL BE OBSERVED THAT THE REDUCTIONS ARE 1-2.

\$18.50 for \$12.33
15.00 for 10.00
12.00 for 8.00
10.00 for 6.67

Toilet Goods.

A good 25-cent quality of tooth powder is a special for this week at 17c In the coldest of weather Hudnut's Merveilous Cold Cream keeps the skin soft and beautifies the complexion. A jar is 50c We show innumerable assortments of dinner and toilet cards. The rubber sponges which we carry are the Russian-Kanwell pure rubber—best for the bath because it is sanitary as well as being durable, 5c to \$2.00, bath size 75c

Blanket Special.

It will be an attraction all week commencing Monday—a matter of interest to every housekeeper as the reductions are unusual.

One-third off of our entire stock of Blankets from 85 cents to \$5; and

One-fourth off from \$5 to \$35

Sizes 10½, 11½, 12½, 13½ and 14½. In colors, white, gray, cream and fancy. This is why you should buy now. Flannelettes in light and dark colors and in the season's choicest patterns. The quality in other stores sold at 15c. We sell regularly at 12½c, which price is now reduced to 8½c

Lace Inducements.

South Entrance First North Aisle. The lace and embroidery section can always be depended upon for new features and pleasing specials. Right now the attraction is lace band sections in ecru, cream and white for the making of lace waists. Aside from quality

One-Fourth Reduction will appeal to the shrewd shopper. These are regular prices: 75c, 50c, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.50 and \$3.50. A saving of one-fourth is worthy of consideration. An exceptional assortment of colored lace insertion is offered at 20 and 35c

Study Economy.

Arnold Flannelettes, usually sold for 20c; our regular price is 15c, which is now reduced to 12½c The patterns are suitable for waists, kimono and children's dresses. Priscilla plush in plain colors, brown, dark blue, gray, green and red, twill on one side and fleece on the other. It is suitable for making undershirts, children's dresses, draperies, etc. Regular price 25c, 15 cents yard; now 6½c

Carpets, Rugs and Linoleums.

45c yard for all-wool filling Ingrain Carpets, 1 new styles. 65c yard for 90c strictly all-wool Ingrain Carpets in a good many Brussels patterns. 85c yard Alexander Smith's Tapestry Brussels Carpets. Some have borders and stars; some plain, excellent qualities, good for long wear; were \$1.10 yard. 95c yard Smith Sandford's extra heavy quality Carpet, hall and stairs to match, 8 patterns to select from; were \$1.15 yard. 1.10 yard Roxbury Carpets, borders, hall and stairs; nothing finer made; from \$1.50 yard. 1.25 yard Lowell's Body Brussels Alexander Smith & Son's Saxony Axminster, Dobson's Wilton Velvet Carpets; all are standard for quality, design and colorings; this season's newest, were \$1.45 and \$1.50 yard. 1.55 yard Alexander Smith Savonneries Bigelow, Axminster Carpets. No finer made. Style colorings are far superior to anything shown before in these high-grade carpets; worth regular \$2.00 and \$2.25. 29c yard for 1 yard wide floor Oil Cloth. 55c yard for 1½ yards wide Floor Oil Cloth. 65c square yard for 3 yards wide Linoleum, 10 styles. 1.62c square yard for inlaid Linoleums; colors go right through to back; newest tile and parquetry patterns. GENUINE REDUCTIONS.

Carpet Size Rugs.

9x12 Brussels Rugs, \$25.00 19.00 qualities reduced to 9x12 Royal Wilton Rugs, 32.50 \$29.00 qualities reduced to 8.3x10.6 Royal Wilton Rug 29.00 \$35.00 qualities reduced to 8.3x10.6 Royal Axminster Rugs, \$27.50 qualities reduced to 22.00 to 7.6x10.6 all wool Smyrna Rugs, \$30.00 qualities reduced to 19.00 to 8.3x10.6 Body Brussels Rugs, \$27.50 qualities reduced to 23.00 to 36x52 Bigelow Axminster Rugs, \$19.50 qualities reduced to 7.75 to 36x72 Bigelow Axminster Rugs, \$11.50 qualities reduced to 8.75 to 36x72 Sheepskin Rugs, \$2.75 2.25 qualities reduced to 26x33 Goatskin Rugs, \$2.25 1.95 qualities reduced to 24x38 Bath and Bedroom Rugs, \$2.25 1.75 qualities reduced to 36x72 Bath and Bedroom Rugs, \$5.50 4.25 qualities reduced to GENUINE REDUCTIONS.

Neckwear and Veilings.

South Entrance First North Aisle. With the adoption of winter apparel collar and cuff sets become popular. During the week we will offer a quantity of embroidered Persian lawn set, which is regularly sold at 50c, for 50c

Sewing Silk Veiling.

Is the newest idea for winter wear. It comes in all the pretty new shades and is finished with a broad satin edge. 25 & 35c The prices are 25 & 35c

The newest and best of all the late novelties is the auto veil, the only perfect protection for the hat from the storm. We have these pretty new styles in black chiffon, made in two-yard lengths, at a veil \$2.00